



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Special Joint Committee on Redistricting
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

STANLEY C. ROSENBERG
Senate Chairman
Hampshire and Franklin District
Room 320
TEL. (617) 722-1532

MICHAEL J. MORAN
House Chairman
Eighteenth Suffolk District
Room 443
TEL. (617) 722-2460

October 18, 2011

To the Citizens of Massachusetts:

We want to thank everyone who participated in the Redistricting process. On March 13, 2011 the Special Joint Committee on Redistricting held their first meeting to discuss the organization of the Committee and to lay the groundwork for public participation in the process.

The Committee actively encouraged participation in the redistricting process from public interest groups, concerned citizens, and federal, state, and municipal officials. We conducted 13 public hearings to listen and learn from the people of the Commonwealth who took the time out of their busy schedule to offer their opinions on redistricting.

At this point, the Committee has heard thirty-one hours of testimony from over 400 groups and individuals. We have received an additional 120 comments from people through our website, www.malegislature.gov/redistricting. Our website, which was created to provide information to the citizens of Massachusetts about the redistricting process, has received over 10,000 hits. The website has case law, census data, a link to software so anyone can draw their own district maps, and most importantly a mechanism for citizens to submit their maps and opinions to the Committee.

We now ask for your opinion one last time. Over the next fourteen days we are asking for your comments on the draft maps before the Committee makes a recommendation to the General Court. The public comment period is the first time this has been done in Massachusetts and is an important component in what many have described as the most open, inclusive, and transparent redistricting process in the history of the state.

We believe that the draft maps presented by the Committee contain the fingerprints of everyone who has participated in the process to date and reflect the many different faces of Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Stanley C. Rosenberg
Senate Chair

Michael J. Moran
House Chair